

CLAIMS:

1. An image sensor clock driver system for reducing energy consumption comprising:

(a) a charge-coupled device having at least two gates for receiving an electrical signal;

(b) at least first and second electrical buses each having a unique voltage;

(c) a first switch on each of the gates that connects each gate to any one of the electrical buses or to a neutral position; and

(d) a second switch to connect the two gates together for reducing power consumption by transferring charge from one gate to the other gate at a time when the first switches are in a neutral position.

2. The image sensor as in claim 1, wherein the first and second switches are transistors.

3. A method for reducing energy consumption in image sensors, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a charge-coupled device having at least two gates for receiving an electrical signal;

(b) providing at least first and second electrical buses each having a unique voltage;

(c) providing a first switch on each of the gates that connects each gate to any one of the electrical buses or to a neutral position; and

(d) providing a second switch to connect the two gates together for reducing power consumption by transferring charge from one gate to the other gate at a time when the first switches are in a neutral position.

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